

Figure 1
(Prior Art)

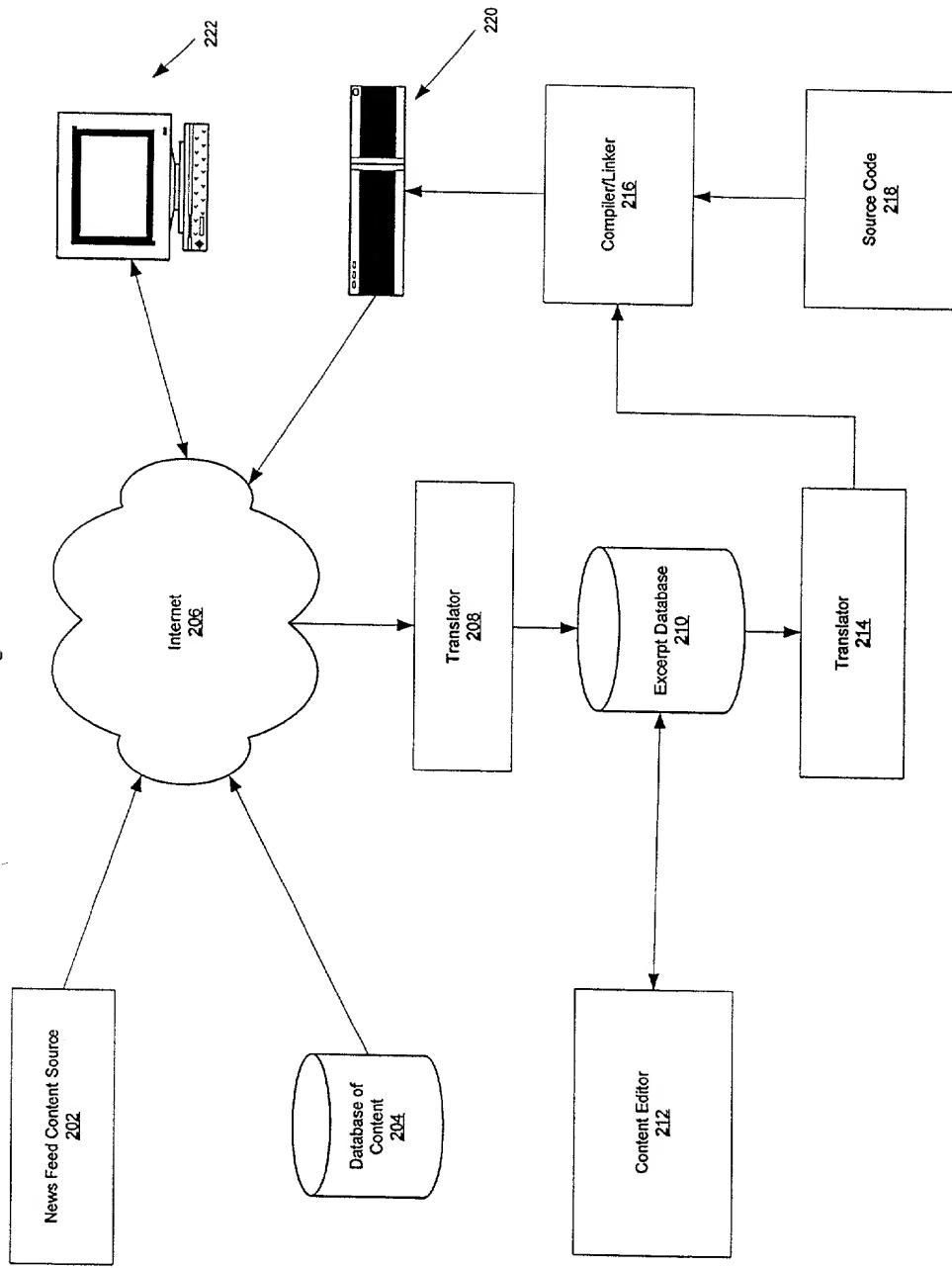


Figure 2

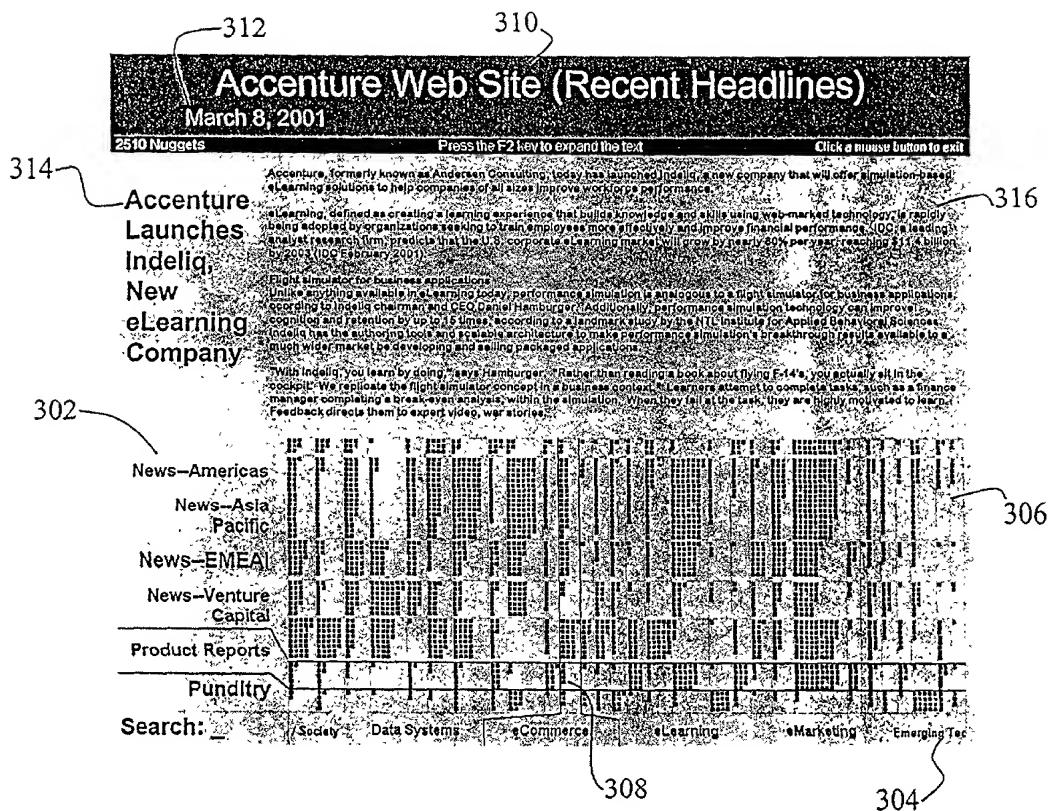


Figure 3

Accenture Web Site (Daily Technology Watch)

2243 Matches The Matrix works under Win95, Win98, and Win2000. It doesn't work under WinNT. Click a mouse button to exit.

**E Ink-
Electronic
Paper and
coffee cup
displays**

If you are like us, you've always been impressed with those coffee mugs whose designs change when you pour in hot coffee. If you haven't seen them before, imagine an unassuming white coffee mug that, when filled, suddenly reveals a clever message, like, "Didn't expect to see this appear, did you?" or maybe a vertical line that shortens as you empty your mug. This technology is revolutionary, and is widely applicable in other markets such as laptops and soup bowl displays. As exciting as it is, however, it's not the end point of technological development for coffee mug displays. E Ink, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, believes its unique, paper-thin EL Electronic displays could be used in everything from point-of-sale posters that update remotely, to low-power paper and PDA displays (to pages in EL Electronic books, to expressive wallpaper and (of course) coffee mugs).

E Ink's technology, called *Immedia*, is quite literally *EL Electronic ink*. If you were to look at it in a bottle, it would look more or less like normal ink, except that there would be millions of microcapsules floating in it (according to the company). If you printed the sentence with *EL Electronic ink*, the period at the end would contain 30 microcapsules. Each capsule contains dye and pigment chips that react to *EL Electronic charge*. Basically, if you spread the liquid over a surface and then apply a charge to it, the pigmented chips either rise to the surface creating a white pixel (although they're not really pixels in the sense we're accustomed to), or they hide behind the dye and the pixel appears black. One of the key benefits of using *EL Electronic ink* is the minimal power requirement. They powered the demonstration sign we saw with one 9 volt battery, and when the battery was detached, the characters remained on the screen, and apparently would for the duration of about two weeks. The company's first products are point-of-sale retail signs that allow one, two, or three lines of text, depending on the model. Users can alter the text on the signs, whether a single one, or a bevy of signs spread out over the country, by submitting the message to E Ink on their website. The company sends the submitting message to all your displays at once by messaging a paper attached to each.

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Figure 4

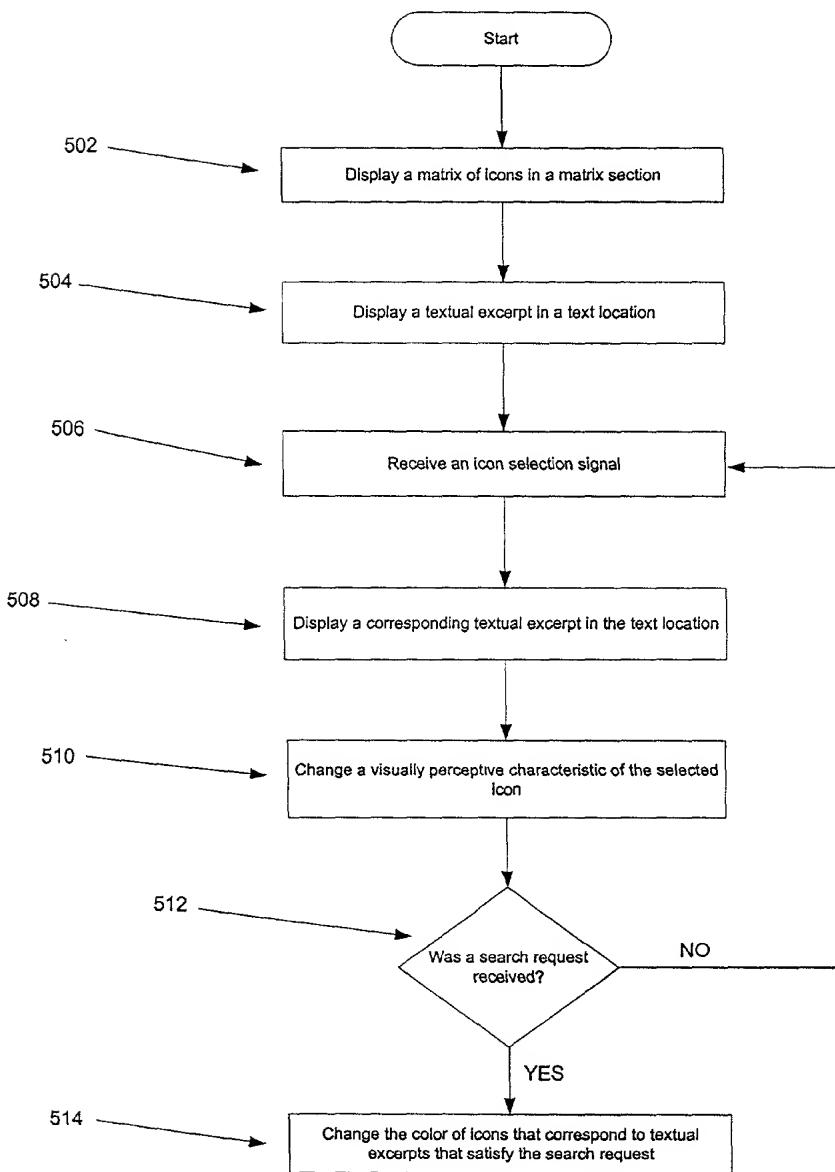


Figure 5

Title: 04/02/01
Matrix-Based User Interface and System for Creating
the Same
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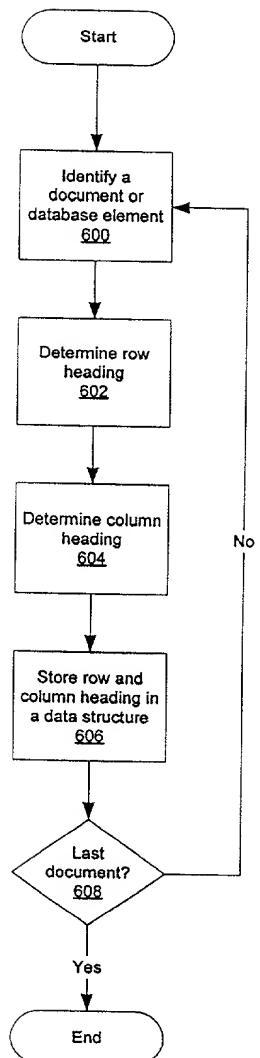


Figure 6

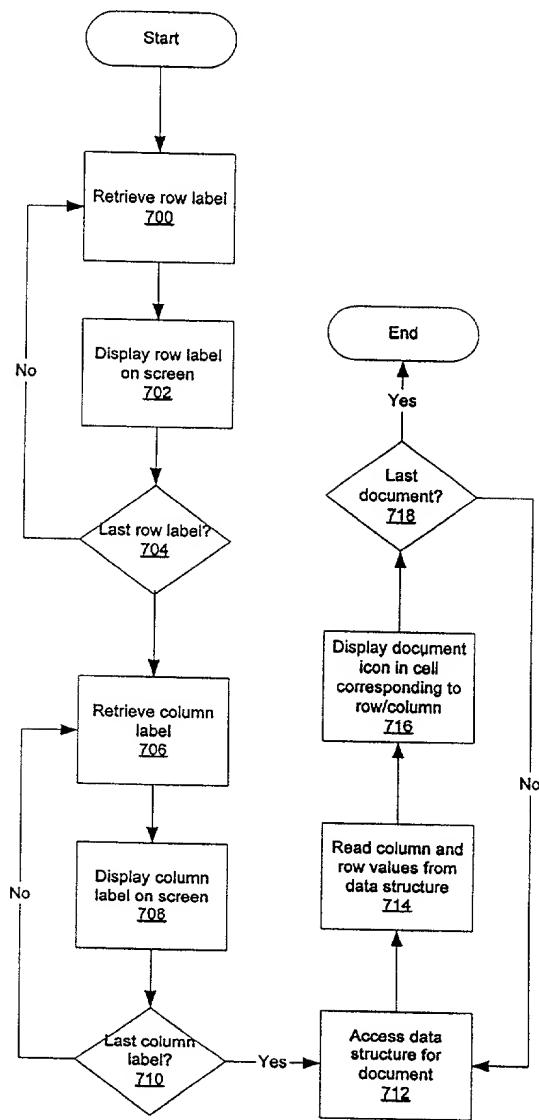


Figure 7